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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/194,112	11/23/1998	MASAHIDE ONUKI	229-532PCT	2812
2292	7590	06/09/2006	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3711	

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Rule 312 Communication	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/194,112	ONUKE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stephen L. Blau	3711	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 06 April 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:
- a) ☐ entered.
 - b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
 - c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.
Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.
 - d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.
 - e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 7 May 2003 and again on 24 March 2006 was filed after a final rejection dated 7 January 2003 and as such it is required to have a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e). Neither of these Information disclosure statements contained this statement. For the information disclosure statement filed 7 May 2003, this was pointed out in a miscellaneous letter dated 28 January 2004 (See enclosure (1)). The PTO-1449 dated 24 March 2006 (See enclosure (2)) has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Conclusion

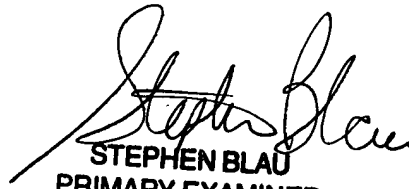
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen L. Blau whose telephone number is (571) 272-4406. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3711

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Slb/31 May 2006



STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER



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09/194,112	11/23/1998	MASAHIDE ONUKI	229-532PCT	2812
2292	7590	01/28/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3711	
			DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 7 May 2003 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.97(d) because it lacks a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e). It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (703) 308-2712. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Greg Vidovich whose telephone number is (703) 308-1513. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858. (TC 3700 Official Fax 703-872-9306)

slb/ 26 January 2004


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Enclosure (1) page 2 of 2